



U.S. Department of Justice

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May 25, 2005

FORMER POSTAL SERVICE EMPLOYEE CHARGED WITH EMBEZZLING MAIL

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, together with KENNETH T. LAAG, Postal Inspector-in-Charge of the Chicago Office of the United States Postal Service, today made the following announcement:

A federal grand jury in Rockford yesterday (May 24, 2005) indicted **GRETA KAY COOK**, 43 (DOB: 7/11/1961), 815 Belmont Boulevard, Apt. #304, Rockford, Illinois, for embezzling United States mail. The indictment alleges that Cook, a former Postal Service employee, embezzled approximately 130 pieces of first-class mail and thousand of pieces of bulk rate United States mail between September 26, 2001 and August 29, 2003, while employed as a Rural Carrier.

Cook is scheduled to appear before United States Magistrate Judge P. Michael Mahoney in Rockford on June 2, 2005.

The charge contained in the indictment carries a maximum possible sentence of 5 years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000, and 2 to 3 years of supervised release, as well as any restitution ordered by the court. The actual sentence would be determined by the United States District Court, guided by the federal Sentencing Guidelines.

This case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspectors with the assistance of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Monica V. Mallory. Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. The defendant is entitled to a fair trial at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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